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**Suppliers' Information Note**

*For The BT Network*

# Private Circuit Services
# Evolving Network Modernisation
# And Its Effect On Analogue Private Circuits
## Technical Information For Suppliers

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In 1990 BT restricted the availability of d.c. paths, and therefore its private circuit products that support d.c. path functionality, to the [local] access network. At the same time BT also reclassified Baseband and the services that support automatic d.c. signalling as "own exchange" products ("Own exchange" means the area served by a particular exchange building).

This SIN establishes the current status of, and BT's current thinking for, the core and access networks and as a consequence the future availability of BT's d.c. based private circuit products.

## 2. CORE NETWORK

The current routing and design of circuits within the core network, i.e. the network of cables and transmission systems that link exchange buildings, is generally determined by the age of the circuit and when it was installed or upgraded.

### 2.1 New 2-wire & 4-wire circuits

***All remaining indirectly wired analogue private circuit products i.e. those routed over BT infrastructure, were withdrawn from new supply on 1st September 2016, and from service completely at the end of March 2020. Reasonable endeavours maintenance support will continue to be provided on existing installations contracted under Emergency Overrun Service extension (EOS extension) terms and conditions, and where technically possible and commercially realistic to do so until circuits are either ceased or withdrawn from the EOS service limited extension completely at the end of July 2026.***

### 2.2 Existing circuits [2-wire & 4-wire]

#### 2.2.1 With a main link over 15 kilometres in length

In September 1993 BT ceased re-routing existing circuits over the FDM (Frequency Division Multiplex) network. At the same time, BT also embarked upon a programme to proactively upgrade existing private circuits from the FDM network to the DPCN. Consequently the vast majority of these circuits are now routed over the DPCN.

#### 2.2.2 With a main link of 15 kilometres or less in length

BT will continue to support the installed circuit base including those with end to end d.c. path functionality provided before 1990. However, where BT has an operational need to replace high liability high maintenance cost copper cables and/or introduce a programme to proactively move the core network onto the DPCN, the means of support may change.

In these situations customers wishing to retain d.c. path functionality for either manual or automatic signalling purposes may need to consider the accommodation of d.c./AC15 signalling converters in customer premises.

In the unlikely situation that a cable replacement affects a Baseband data circuit, the customer will be advised to upgrade to an alternative product or service to suit their needs.

## 2.3 020 7 dial code area (Central London Zone (CLZ))[1]

Because of the preponderance of copper cable and the special nature of the cable network within the City of London, BT continues to support existing installations of d.c. paths within the 020 7 dial code area including, where local conditions allow, circuits where the two local ends are served by different but geographically very close and copper connected exchanges).

***However all remaining indirectly wired analogue private circuit products i.e. those routed over BT infrastructure, were withdrawn from new supply on 1st September 2016,*** meaning BT cannot facilitate the rearrangement of any of these circuit types including existing d.c. based private circuits.

*(Rearrangement is a term used within BT to mean that a customer relocating within the same "city" and/or its environs, will require his circuit to be moved from one exchange building area to another exchange building area).*

BT will continue to support the installed circuit base contracted under Emergency Overrun Service extension (EOS extension) terms and conditions, and where technically possible and commercially realistic to do so until circuits are either ceased or withdrawn from the EOS service limited extension completely at the end of July 2026, subject to the provisos outlined in Section 2.2.2.

## 3. ACCESS NETWORK [including those within the 020 7 dial code area]

The status of a d.c. circuit within the access network, i.e. where it is wholly routed within the same exchange building area, is largely unchanged. Other than certain operational needs, e.g. to replace a damaged cable, and a limited copper to fibre upgrade programme, BT does not have immediate plans for wholesale modernisation of the access networks.

### 3.1 *NEW:*

***All remaining indirectly wired analogue private circuit products i.e. those routed over BT infrastructure, were withdrawn from new supply on 1st September 2016, and from service completely at the end of March 2020. Reasonable endeavours maintenance support will continue to be provided on existing installations contracted under Emergency Overrun Service extension (EOS extension) terms and conditions, and where technically possible and commercially realistic to do so until circuits are either ceased or withdrawn from the EOS service limited extension completely at the end of July 2026.***

The continued availability of d.c. paths remains restricted by the ongoing and future availability of suitable copper line plant and the technical requirements of customer's end terminal equipment.

For Baseband, the additional and overriding maxim is the continued availability of a suitable and continuous unloaded copper *cable* route between the two customer premises.

### 3.2 EXISTING*:*

[1] Enquiries relating to whether a customer premises falls within the 020 7 dial code area (CLZ) should be directed to the BT Private Circuit Helpdesk: 0800 800 977.

Subject to the same caveats as detailed in Section 2.2.2 for the existing circuit base with main links under 15 kilometres, BT will continue to support own exchange d.c. circuits.

## 4. GLOSSARY

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|---|---|
| CLZ | Central London Zone |
| DPCN | Digital Private Circuit Network |
| FDM | Frequency Division Multiplex |
| SIN | Suppliers' Information Note |

## 5. HISTORY

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|---|---|---|
| Issue 1.0 | March 1995 | First issued |
| Issue 1.1 | April 2001 | Issued in revised format. Content not updated. |
| Issue 1.2 | April 2002 | Content review. |
| Issue 1.3 | March 2003 | Clause 2.4, text added to clarify Baseband provision policy in CLZ. |
| Issue 1.4 | May 2004 | Footnote 1 added – CLZ queries to be directed to the BT Private Circuit Helpdesk |
| Issue 1.5 | July 2013 | Content review with revision to routing and design approach for new inter-exchange circuits |
| Issue 1.6 | August 2014 | Textual clarifications including reference to the copper to fibre upgrade programme in the access network<br>Change SINet site references from http://www.sinet.bt.com to http://www.btplc.com/sinet/ |
| Issue 1.7 | January 2016 | Notes added about the timeframes for the withdrawal from new supply and subsequent final closure of the remaining analogue private circuit products. |
| Issue 1.8 | May 2018 | Textual clarifications following the withdrawal of all analogue services from new supply. |
| Issue 1.9 | September2020 | Additional minor phrasing changes in availability text.<br>Change SINet site references from http://www.btplc.com/sinet/ to https://www.bt.com/about/sinet |
| Issue 1.10 | September 2023 | Minor editorial changes to the note on withdrawal. Reasonable endaeavours maintenance on Emergency Overrun Service extension until end of March 2024.<br>BT registered address changed to One Braham |
| Issue 1.11 | September 2024 | Minor editorial changes as EoS extension has a further limited extension until end of March 2025 |
| Issue 1.12 | February 2026 | Minor editorial changes as EoS extension has a further limited extension until end of July 2026 |

**-END-**